



SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Office of the Chief ★ Police Media Services ★ 214 W. Nueva St. ★ San Antonio, Texas 78207
Office (210)207-7579 ★ Fax (210)207-7567 ★ Dispatcher (210)207-7484

CONTACT: Sandy Gutierrez

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MEDIA ADVISORY

SAPD Basement Haunted?

WHAT: SAPD Basement transformed into Haunted House for kids

WHEN: Saturday, October 26th
12:30 PM

WHERE: SAPD Headquarters
214 W. Nueva
Basement, MAP Room

CONTACT: Rachel O'Donnell

Ghouls and goblins will replace guns and badges generally seen at San Antonio Police Headquarters. The basement will be temporarily transformed into a haunted house as SAPD invites kids from the Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) Program for a haunting experience.

As part of National Red Ribbon Week the department will also host an anti-drug presentation for parents and children. Red Ribbon Week is in memory of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a DEA Agent murdered fighting the drug war.

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Like ghouls and goblins at Halloween, drugs and alcohol are a scary thing, too, and can haunt someone for the rest of their life. SAPD is committed to educating and preventing kids from turning to drugs and alcohol. By exposing kids to the DEFY Program and positive, self-esteem building techniques, SAPD can help kids see the frightening side of drugs and alcohol and prevent them from getting hooked.

DEFY is funded through the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Weed and Seed. Studies have shown that children ages 11 to 14 have a high-risk of exposure to drugs, alcohol and violence. DEFY targets 9 and 10-year-old kids to educate and strengthen them in leadership, conflict resolution, self-confidence and team-building skills to arm them with these essential techniques to battle the drug and alcohol influence they may come across when they begin their middle school years.

Phase I of DEFY is a 5-day camp experience while Phase II is a 10-month process where a child is partnered with an adult mentor for the school year.

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